

May 4, 2004

A regular meeting of the Redmond City Council was called to order by Mayor Rosemarie Ives at 7:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Councilmembers present were: Cole, Marchione, McCormick, Paine, Resha, Robinson, and Vache.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that following the regular meeting the Council will hold an executive session to discuss litigation; following the executive session the Council will convene a study session on the Regional Transportation Improvement District, and the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

The Mayor announced the following changes to the agenda:

- Consent Agenda Item 3, Public Hearing for River Park Development Agreement will be rescheduled to June 15, 2004
- Staff Report - Councilmember Marchione, Chair of the Planning and Public Works Committee, will update the Council on the City Hall Project
- Staff Report - add a report on Bear Creek Parkway

PROCLAMATION

The Mayor read a Proclamation declaring May 2004 Older Americans Month in the City of Redmond. She presented the Proclamation to Linda Van Loben Sels, Senior Center Director.

The Mayor recognized individuals, organizations, and businesses that have contributed significantly to the betterment of older adults in our community, and presented awards to this year's honorees - Margaret Phillips, George Mosebar, and Keith and Wendy Scheel, owners of the Great Harvest Bread Company.

PROCLAMATION

The Mayor read a Proclamation declaring May 9-15, 2004 National Peace Officers Week in the City of Redmond. The Mayor presented the Proclamation to Commander Ed Billington.

ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ben Lindekugel, Director of Community Relations, Evergreen Hospital, updated the Council on the Hospital's plans for a bond issue to build a new emergency department.

Lee Steventon, Community Advisor, Evergreen Hospital, spoke about Evergreen Hospital's plans for a new emergency department.

Warren Appleton, Director, Evergreen Hospital Emergency Department, asked for the Council's endorsement of the Hospital's expansion project concept.

Sharon Dorning, 15831 NE 91 Way, spoke on behalf of the Evergreen Hospital bond issue.

Edward Byrne, 17115 NE 92 Street, spoke concerning the sidewalk project at Nike Park. He said he is against the project because the sidewalk would take away about five feet of the driveways of three residences and there is already a foot path on NE 92 Street.

The Council requested a copy of information regarding this project.

Stephen Byrne, 17115 NE 92 Street, spoke in opposition to the sidewalk improvement on NE 92 Street. He said he heard that the reason for the improvement was to eliminate traffic congestion at the entrance to the park, but the reason for the congestion is due to the events that take place in the park, such as soccer and softball practices, church events, etc. He noted the park is small and is not suitable for such events. He stated the neighbors should have had an opportunity to comment on the project sooner, because there has already been surveying and other preliminary project activities. He wondered if the Council was aware of the events in the park during the summer; he participates in sporting activities and has to pay fees to play at designated fields, and did not think it was right for people to be able to use Nike Park without having to pay for it. He thought the events took away from the neighborhood park character, and addressing events in the park was the right solution to address the traffic.

Judith Simpson, 10655 Redmond-Woodinville Road, spoke concerning the City of Redmond Fire and Police Community Outreach Center located in Redmond Town Center, and about her friend, Gail Marsh. She stated Commander Marsh was very instrumental in helping build the city's volunteer program, and as a result of an increased number of volunteers for the Police Department the city was able to open the storefront at Redmond Town Center, which is staffed entirely by volunteers. Ms. Simpson said when she heard about the substation opening she thought it was a great opportunity to continue her late husband's legacy, and his work with the Police and Fire Departments, and a chance for her to work with the departments on common safety programs. She thanked Commander Marsh and many others who helped develop a strong volunteer program that is an important part of our community of good neighbors.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Ms. McCormick, second by Mr. Marchione, to approve the following items of the Consent Agenda:

(1) approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 20, 2004

(2) approve the following payroll/direct deposit and claims checks:

PAYROLL/DIRECT DEPOSIT CHECKS:

#158212 through 158338; and
#122613 through 123200 \$1,152,825.29

CLAIMS CHECKS:

#215270 through 215691 \$2,943,317.73

(3) Postpone public hearing for River Park Development Agreement to June 15, 2004

(4a) approve the 2002-2004 Labor Agreement with the Redmond Police Association

(4b) adopt Ordinance No. 2206, establishing the 2002, 2003, and 2004 "P" Pay Plans for employees covered by the Redmond Police Association, which was presented and read.

Upon a poll of the Council, Cole, Marchione, McCormick, Paine, Resha, Robinson, and Vache voted aye. Motion carried unanimously (7 - 0).

REPORTS

Staff Report - City Hall Update

Councilmember Marchione, Chair of the Planning and Public Works Committee, reported on the Committee's oversight of the City Hall construction project. He said staff has briefed the Committee on the organization chart, quality controls inherent in the relationship between the city, the developer, and financing.

Councilmember Marchione announced a meeting of the Planning and Public Works Committee for Wednesday, May 5, 2004. Agenda items include a briefing on the program elements of the City Hall building. He also announced that the

Committee would meet the first and third Wednesdays in May and June at 4:30 p.m.

Staff Report - Bear Creek Parkway Extension

Don Cairns, Transportation Services Manager, updated the Council on the status of the Bear Creek Parkway Extension. He said the public comment period ends March 7, 2004, and the Council will be discussing the project at the May 11, 2004 study session. It is important, he continued, for staff to have a decision from the Council soon on an alignment for the extension so the city can issue the Final Environment Impact Statement (EIS) with the Preferred Alternative. He distributed information to be reviewed before the study session, which includes an executive summary, maps, and the proposed study session agenda. He asked Council to contact staff with questions or comments.

Councilmember McCormick inquired were there any specific parts of the Draft EIS that the Council should read in advance? Mr. Cairns responded that the Evaluation Matrix on pages 1-9 of the Executive Summary comparing the different alternatives, and the text references to the EIS would be beneficial.

Councilmember McCormick asked if there would be enough time between the end of the public comment period and the study session for staff to provide the Council with the comments from the April 19, 2004 public open house and other comments that had been received. Mr. Cairns replied that staff would summarize the comments and provide them to the Council.

OMBUDSMAN REPORT

Councilmember Cole noted the Council's receipt of a letter that was forwarded to James E. Haney, City Attorney.

Councilmember Resha received a communication from a citizen who is a frequent Sound Transit bus rider. He said Sound Transit is beginning a process to look at changing Route No. 545 to either add additional service or to decrease the time distance between buses to ten minutes. The individual expressed concern about how over-crowded the Route No. 545 bus is leaving Redmond for Seattle. Mr. Resha said after speaking with the individual and with the planners at Sound Transit, he learned that there are some discussions underway for a fall service plan. He suggested that there might be an opportunity for Sound Transit to share their plans for Route No. 545 with the Council and the community.

2005-2006 BUDGET CALENDAR

Councilmember Cole commented on issues related to the 2005 - 2006 Budget Calendar. For many years the Council has discussed the budget process at its retreat, and in the past has felt it did not receive enough information prior to the formal release of the budget. The Council expressed a desire to become involved in the budget process sooner to have adequate time to review the budget and ask for additional information. He noted that the Council passed Resolution No. 1170 asking for the budget by the second Tuesday in September.

Councilmember Vache said there are a lot of details that must come together the last couple of weeks when putting the budget together. Well before that, he commented, most of the information that is going to be in the budget has been defined. He suggested that in the study sessions, the Council take on the task of understanding what is going to be in the budget, but does not necessarily need the dollar amounts. He shared a list of issues that he and Lenda Crawford, Finance and Information Services Director, put together on which the Council needs to have a discussion by the middle of September for a "no surprises budget."

Councilmember Paine, Chair of the Public Administration and Finance Committee, said he would like to proceed on a deliberate timetable to get the Council ready to receive the budget document in a timely manner and allow ample time for review and discussion. He said he thought the process and schedule for this year was a good one.

Councilmember McCormick said the main reason for the proposed budget calendar is the unknown outcome regarding the initiative to reduce property taxes that could potentially affect city revenues. When there is no initiative related to local government revenues, she would ask the city administration to bring the budget to the Council even earlier than the first week of October.

Councilmember Cole suggested adding "staffing changes" to the 2005-2006 Budget Strategy Sessions Issues List that was distributed by Councilmember Vache.

Councilmember Robinson said he thought the critical issues were the strategy sessions and how the issues identified on the issues list are discussed.

Councilmember Resha said the two-month period of sales tax, historically, has provided significant changes in the projections. In the last few years, he added, the Puget Sound region has been in a period of economic decline, lagging behind the U.S. This year sales tax revenue is going to be key to what happens for the next couple of

years, so every bit of additional data is critical to the budget process. He concluded that it is important to get the most credible sales tax projections, and the Council needs to focus on the strategy and policy issues.

Councilmember Marchione said he does not have the history of past budget processes. He is a member of the Public Administration and Finance Committee, and has listened to what his fellow Councilmembers need in the budget process. He said the process laid out by Ms. Crawford - a collaborative process with an exchange of information and no surprises - is encouraging; the dialogue during the strategy sessions is key. He said he would not hesitate to extend passage of the budget into December 2004, if necessary; state law says it doesn't have to be adopted until December 31, 2004.

The Mayor confirmed that the majority of the Council is willing to accept the October 5, 2004 date to receive the budget.

The Mayor noted the Council's receipt of the initial budget calendar, major issues affecting the budget, history of past budgets, and a survey of surrounding cities and King County's 2004 preliminary budget submittal dates to councils. She said one of her responsibilities is creating and presenting the greater context as the Council looks at each of the issues, and how everything fits together, and the budget document helps to do that. She said she needs to think about the recommendation to add staffing changes to the list.

Councilmember Paine said he envisioned scheduling sessions for sensitive things such as staffing changes immediately after presentation of the budget, but the Council needs to have discussions soon to figure out how to schedule discussions on all the issues on the list.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

At 9:20 p.m. the Council held an executive session regarding litigation. There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

MAYOR

DEPUTY CITY CLERK